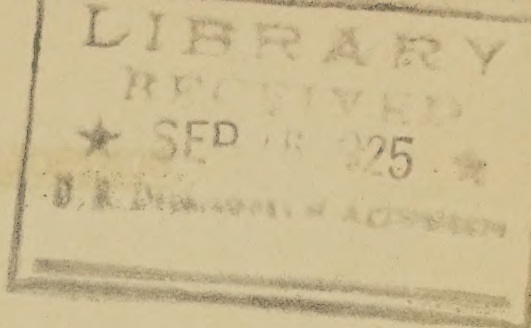


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Extension Service

Office of Exhibits

A Summary of the Exhibit

CONTROLLING LIVESTOCK ENEMIES

A scenic booth exhibit showing the destructiveness of the timber wolf and the best methods of killing him.

Specifications

Floor space - - - - - 14' front,
11' deep
Wall space- - - - - None
Shipping weight - - - - - 1625 lbs.
Electrical requirements - - - 110 volt A.C.
or D. C. current. 200 watts needed for
lights.

CONTROLLING LIVESTOCK ENEMIES

How It Looks

This exhibit is built in semblance of a one-room, western, log cabin with the front cut away so as to form a demonstration booth. Through the open back door one sees a wintry landscape just at sunrise. A lone wandering timber wolf has stopped momentarily to look into the lighted cabin.

On the left wall is hung a large picture showing the proper method of putting out traps for wolves and coyotes. On the shelf below the picture are the ingredients used in mixing poisoned bait. Other pictures and texts give information relating to the destruction of livestock enemies by various well-tested methods.

The booth is 14' across the front, 11' deep and 9' high.

What It Tells

When the organized work against predatory animals was started in 1915, the large gray wolves were regarded by cattlemen and other experienced observers as the wild animal by far the most destructive to livestock. The development of the livestock business throughout the West afforded them an abundance of readily obtainable food among the calves, yearlings, adult cattle, sheep, swine and other domestic animals. Despite enormous sums paid in bounties on predatory animals and the great but unorganized efforts of ranchmen and their employees and of professional trappers, wolves maintained themselves in large numbers and exacted a heavy toll from the livestock industry. In some districts they rendered impossible the growing of sheep and hogs. Economic pressure due to restricted ranges, and the necessity for closer attention to every item that reduced the margin of profit finally made intolerable this drain upon the possible output of livestock. As a result of the organized campaigns that have been conducted, gray wolves have been largely eliminated from the pasture ranges of the West.

At present coyotes are unquestionably the most destructive predatory animal in this country. They constitute one of the most difficult problems of predatory animal control. They are widely distributed and well endowed to protect themselves and secure food under a great variety of conditions. To insure their perpetuation they are prolific breeders, sometimes having as many as fourteen young in the litter. Contrary to their former habits, coyotes may now be found in high and rugged mountain ranges and in dense forests. They persistently follow livestock in their seasonal movements between summer and winter ranges, constantly feeding upon the young and often adult cattle, sheep, goats and swine. Because of their fox-like skill in concealing themselves and in escaping pursuit, they often successfully locate their dens and rear their young in close proximity to ranches.

It has long been recognized by the Biological Survey that the only hope of coping successfully with coyotes, is through the development of effective poisoning procedure and its application on a wide scale throughout their range. With this in view, constant effort has been made to devise poisoning materials that would prove acceptable and not arouse the suspicion of these alert animals and to develop means of distributing poisoned baits which would permit the infested areas to be covered systematically. So successful has this proved that over great areas of range the destruction of coyotes has been so thorough that stockmen have been able to reduce the number of men required to handle their flocks and to carry their flocks through the lambing period with little or no losses from coyotes in localities where previously they were heavy.

In addition to the direct saving of lambs, growing stock and breeding animals, stockmen are thus enabled to handle their herds at less expense and to utilize the pasture more fully. Freedom of the range from predatory animals eliminates the need for long drives to bedding grounds and permits the use of the open herding system which is beneficial both to the sheep and to the range.

Where To Get Information

Apply to the Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., or its local Leaders of Predatory Animal Control and cooperating organizations. Secure yearbook Separate 845 - Hunting Down Stock Killers.